

CDC

FIGHTIN' NAVY

EXCITING SEA BATTLE STORIES

Fightin'

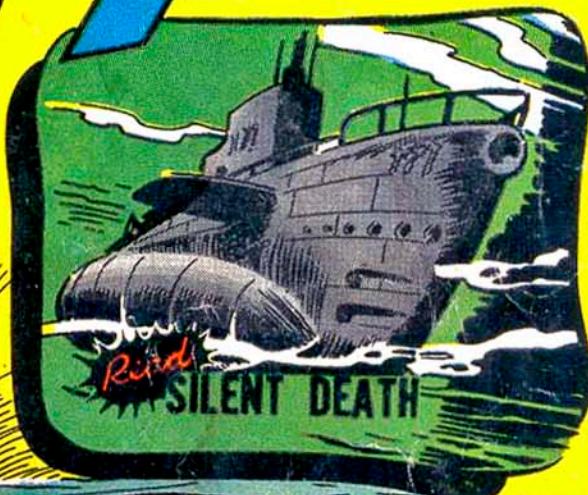
APPROVED
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No 79

10¢

MAV

A CHARLTON PUBLICATION



Read

EXPENDABLE

A tribute to our PTs!

WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM



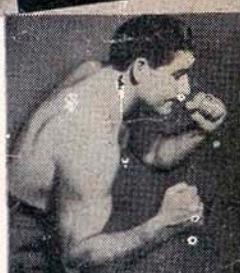
"WE'LL RIPPLE YOUR BODY WITH MUSCLES and LOAD T-N-T IN YOUR FISTS"

Says JOE LOUIS, Great World Champion



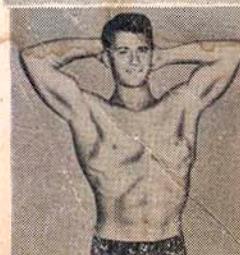
HIGH SCHOOL STAR—Maurice Nuckles of Miami Beach shows Dad powerful muscles developed by the Champions.

You can Broaden your Shoulders and Add Solid New Muscles...
AS WE DID!



STATE TROOPER—George Sheridan of Springfield learned Self Defense from the Champs when 16 years old.

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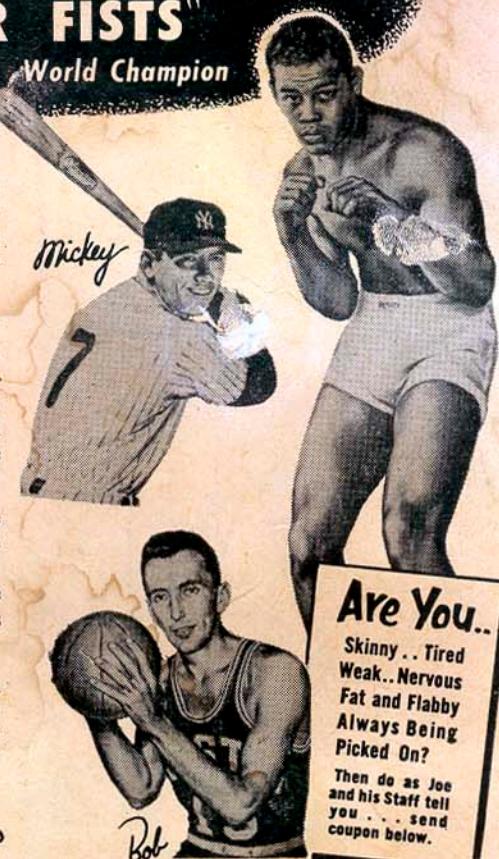
If you're weak or skinny, Mickey Mantle will build your body—turn flabby muscles into steel . . . FAST. If you want speed and stamina, Bob Cousy can make you fast . . . LOTS OF FUN.

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FIGHTIN' NAVY

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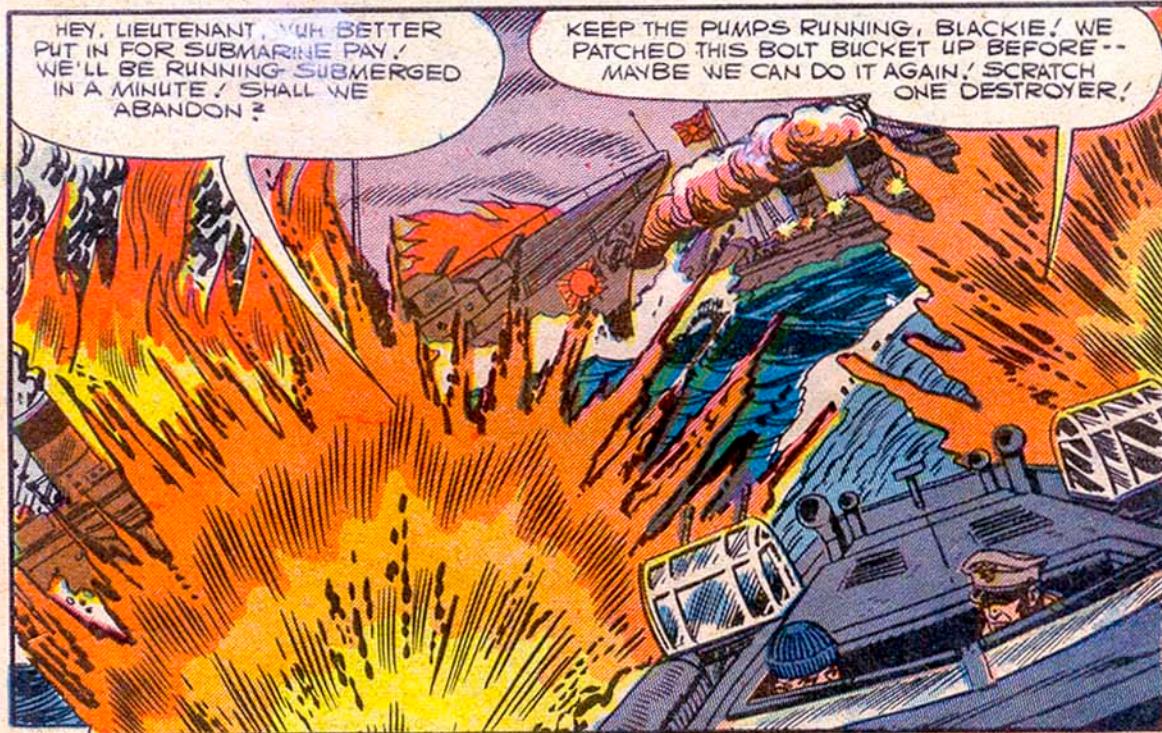
Volume 12, Number 79



THIS SEAL OF APPROVAL APPEARS ONLY ON COMIC MAGAZINES WHICH HAVE BEEN CAREFULLY REVIEWED, PRIOR TO PUBLICATION, BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY, AND FOUND TO HAVE MET THE HIGH STANDARDS OF MORALITY AND GOOD TASTE REQUIRED BY THE CODE. THE CODE AUTHORITY OPERATES APART FROM ANY INDIVIDUAL PUBLISHER AND EXERCISES INDEPENDENT JUDGMENT WITH RESPECT TO CODE-COMPLIANCE. A COMIC MAGAZINE BEARING ITS SEAL IS YOUR ASSURANCE OF GOOD READING AND PICTORIAL MATTER.

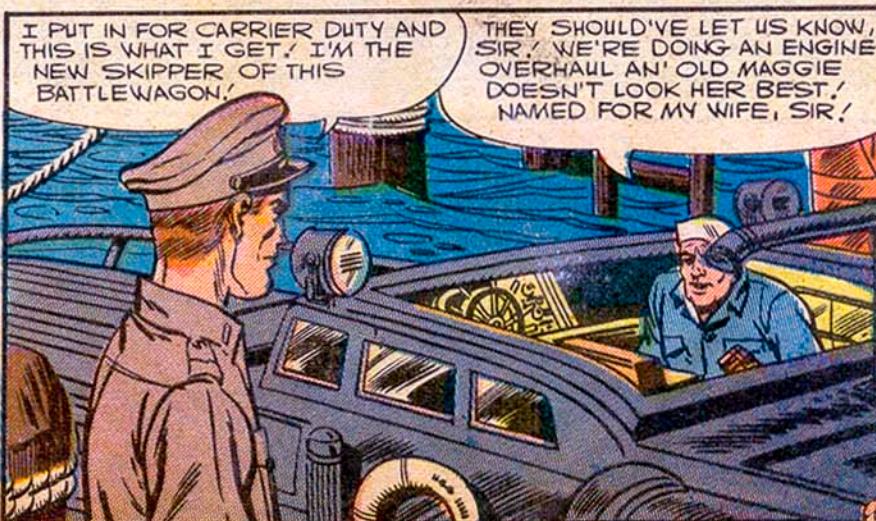
Alfred J. Fago Executive Editor

EXPENDABLE



S1695

THEY CALLED THEM EXPENDABLE... THE SLEEK, DEADLY TORPEDO BOATS THAT POUNDED OVER THE WATER AT SEVENTY-FIVE MILES AN HOUR. THE BOATS AND THE MEN THAT MANNED THEM WERE CONSIDERED LOST BEFORE THEY WENT INTO ACTION. BUT TO MEN LIKE LT. BILL GANTLING, THE PT BOAT HE COMMANDED WAS PRECIOUS -- BUT WHEN HE FIRST SAW HIS NEW ASSIGNMENT...



FIGHTIN' NAVY

WELL, IT MAY BE A SHORT LIFE ON THIS MOTORIZED SLIVER, BUT IT SHOULD BE EXCITING!

YEAH! JUST NUDGE THE THROTTLE AND SHE'LL DO SEVENTY KNOTS!

WE CAN GET BACK TO EARTH, I GUESS, WE WON'T BE HEROES--WE'LL BE USED FOR PATROL AND FERRING ISLAND OBSERVERS BACK AND FORTH! ROUTINE STUFF!



ROUTINE STUFF TURNED OUT TO BE NOT QUITE MONOTONOUS! ON THEIR FIRST RUN OUT OF NOUMEA, THE PT BOAT CREW TASTED EXCITEMENT...

I HEARD JAP CHATTER OVER THERE, MR. GANTLING! AND I THINK I SEE MOONLIGHT ON A GUN BARREL!

WELL, STOP THINKING, IF YOU'RE SURE, START SHOOTING!



HOLD ON TO YOUR HATS! WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE!

YEP, IT WAS JAP CHATTER ALL RIGHT! THEY SHOOT LIKE JAPS TOO!



THEY'RE GETTING THE RANGE A LITTLE LATE! WE'LL BE OUT OF RANGE IN A MINUTE!



FIGHTIN' NAVY

LT. GANTLING'S BOAT WAS SHOT UP A LITTLE -- BUT THE CREW CHEERFULLY REPAIR-ED IT! THEY SEEMED TO LIKE THE WORK ...

FINISHED? THE SKIPPER WANTS OLD MAGGIE'S SCARS HEALED BEFORE THE SQUADRON COMMANDER SEES HER!

YEAH -- HE MIGHT TELL US TO BE CARE-FUL AGAIN! MR. GANTLING DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT CAREFUL MEANS!

HOW'S IT GOING, GUNS?

WE BURNED OUT TWO BARRELS LAST NIGHT, SIR! OVER AT THE AMMO DUMP, THEY THINK I'M MAILIN' THE BULLETS HOME OR SOMETHIN'!

WE'VE RUN INTO TROUBLE ON EVERY MISSION! I JUST GOT A NASTY LITTLE NOTE ASKING ME TO REPORT TO THE SQUADRON COMMANDER!



A FEW MINUTES LATER...

LT. GANTLING REPORTING, SIR!

SIT DOWN, GANTLING! AND STOP LOOKING SO INNOCENT! YOU KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE!

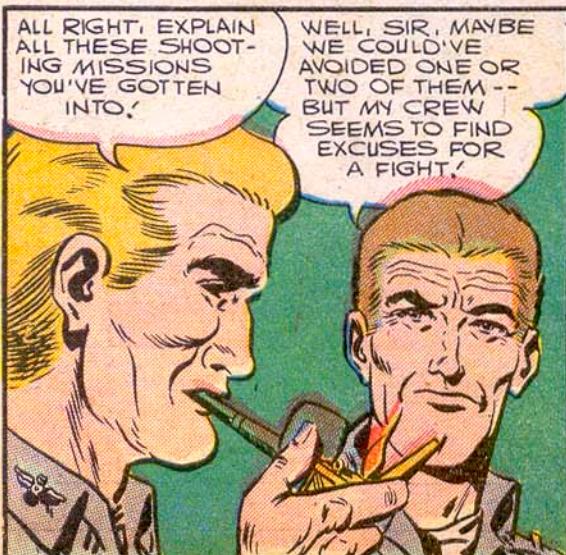


ALL RIGHT, EXPLAIN ALL THESE SHOOT-ING MISSIONS YOU'VE GOTTEN INTO!

WELL, SIR, MAYBE WE COULD'VE AVOIDED ONE OR TWO OF THEM -- BUT MY CREW SEEMS TO FIND EXCUSES FOR A FIGHT!

THEY'RE A GOOD BUNCH, SIR! THEY LIKE ACTION, THAT'S ALL, SIR!

WELL, SLOW THEM DOWN! YOUR BOAT IS EXPENDA-BLE BUT LET'S NOT EXPEND IT TOO QUICKLY!



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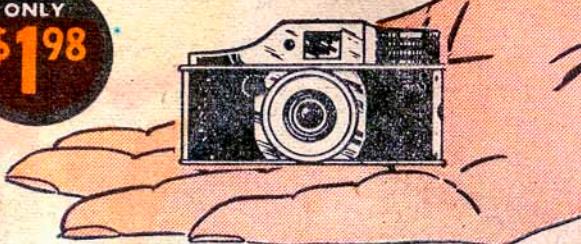


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FIGHTIN' NAVY

IT WAS TWO NIGHTS LATER,
LT. GANTLING'S PT BOAT WAS
RUNNING DARK WHEN THE
LOOKOUT WHISPERED HIS
WARNING...

SLOW DOWN,
SIR! THERE'S
A COUPLE OF
JAP DESTROY-
ERS OUTSIDE
THE REEF!

SEE
WHAT
THEY'VE
GOT
WITH
'EM!

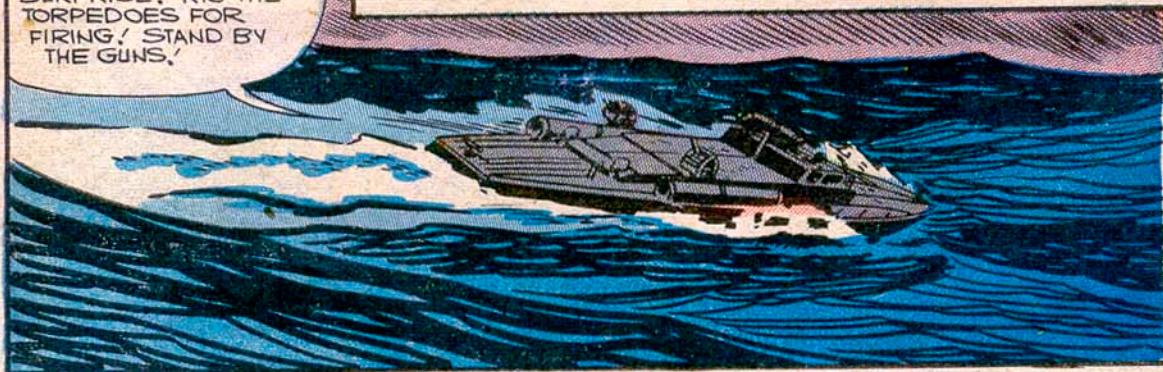


SHOULD
WE KILL
THE
ENGINES,
SIR?

NO! OUR IN-
TELLIGENCE
BOYS MISSED
ON THIS ONE!
THIS BUNCH
WILL COME AS
A RUDE SHOCK
TO EVERYONE!
THAT IS, IF
WE DON'T...



...SPOIL THEIR LITTLE
SURPRISE! RIG THE
TORPEDOES FOR
FIRING, STAND BY
THE GUNS!



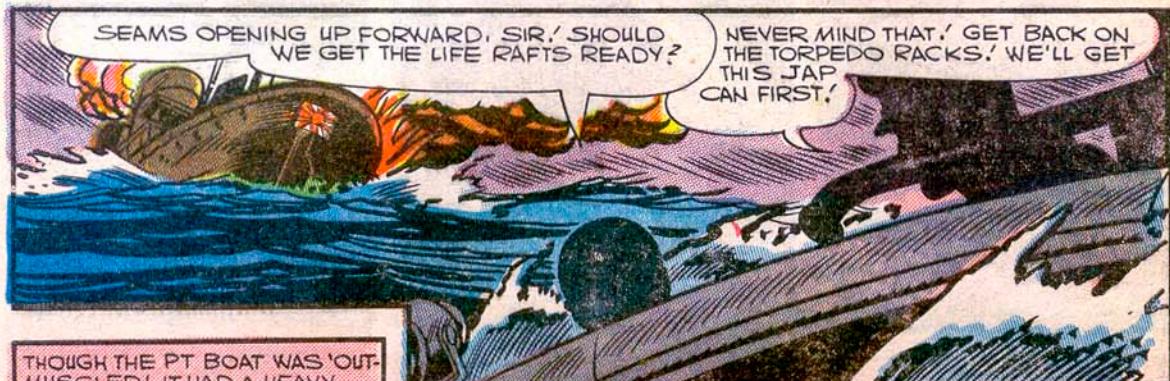
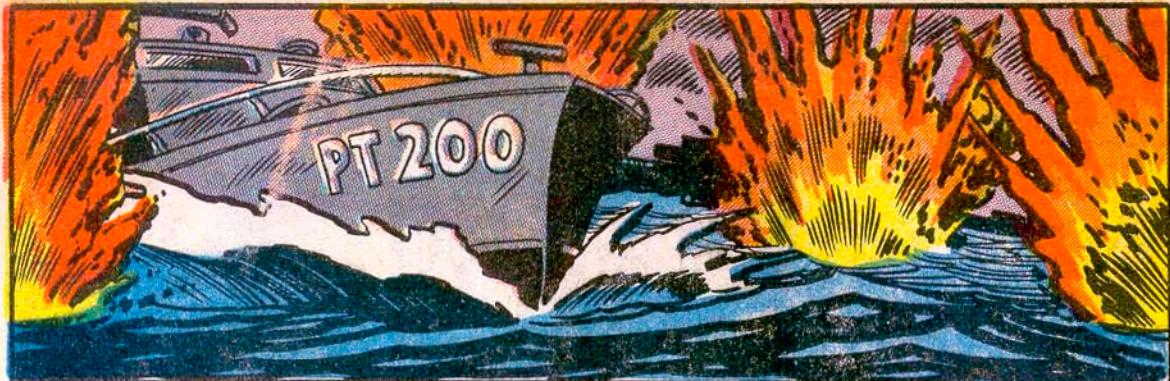
IT WAS
SUICIDE!
ONE PT BOAT
COULD
NEVER
SURVIVE
AN ATTACK
ON A
DESTROYER-
ESCORTED
CONVOY!
BUT
PT BOATS
WERE
EXPENDABLE...

FIRE ONE! SAVE THE REST
FOR THE DESTROYERS!
THEY'LL BE IN OUR HAIR
IN A MINUTE!

THAT TRANSPORT
WILL BE A DEAD
PIGEON TWENTY
MINUTES FROM
NOW!



FIGHTIN' NAVY

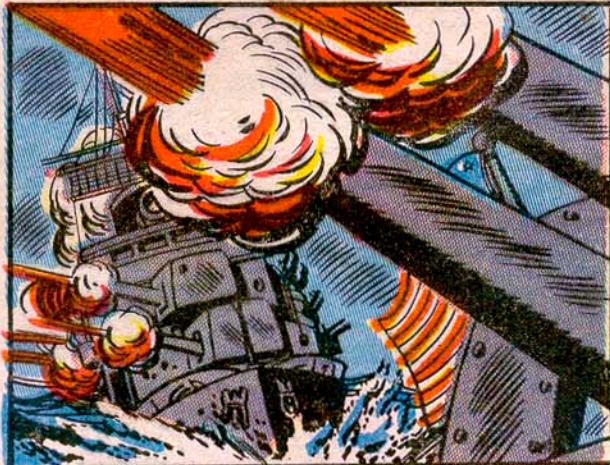


THOUGH THE PT BOAT WAS 'OUT-MUSCLED' IT HAD A HEAVY PUNCH... THE BIG TWENTY ONE INCH TORPEDO, AND THE JAP DESTROYER FELT IT ...

WELL, WE'RE COOKED BUT THEY DIDN'T DO SO HOT EITHER! AND THE JAPS THAT'RE LEFT BETTER GET READY FOR COMPANY!

SHIPS BEARING ZERO EIGHT ZERO! I THINK THEY'RE OURS, SIR!

ALERTED BY THE PT BOAT'S ACTION, AN AMERICAN CRUISER AND TWO DESTROYERS GOT INTO THE ACTION...



WELL, THAT CONVOY WON'T LAND ANY TROOPS! AND IF WE BEACH THIS THING RIGHT WE WON'T EVEN GET OUR FEET WET! BACK ALL ENGINES!



FIGHTIN' NAVY

MORNING FOUND THE PT BOAT A SAD RELIC OF ITS FORMER SLEEK BEAUTY! LT. GANTLING'S FORCED CHEERFULNESS FOOLED NO ONE...

WHAT'LL HAPPEN NOW, SIR? WILL WE GET ANOTHER BOAT?

I DOUBT IT, JOE! WE'LL PROBABLY GET TRANSFERRED TO REAL SHIPS--A CRUISER OR A CARRIER, MAYBE! THIS IS A BREAK FOR ALL OF US!

I RECKON YOU AND THE BOYS HAVE A RIGHT TO BE GLAD, SIR! THAT PT BOAT DUTY IS NO PICNIC!

PIPE DOWN, OLD MAGGIE WAS A THOROUGH-BRED!

FINE WORK, MR. GANTLING! YOU AND YOUR CREW WILL BE MENTIONED IN MY REPORT! SORRY TO LOSE YOU! WE HAVE NO REPLACEMENT FOR YOUR BOAT!

WE'D BE WILLING TO WAIT A WHILE, SIR! IT'S A SHAME TO BREAK UP A GOOD CREW!



SORRY, BILL! THAT'S MY ORDERS! WHEN WE SCRATCH A BOAT, WE TRANSFER THE CREW TO OTHER DUTY!

I'LL TELL THE CREW, SIR!



THE BOAT WAS ABANDONED! LT. GANTLING'S HEART ACHED. HE BEGAN INSPECTING THE BOAT ONCE MORE! HOPEFULLY, THIS TIME...

I'LL BET WE COULD PATCH UP THIS HOLE ANYWAY!

YES, SIR! AND THE OTHER ONES TOO! WE COULD MAKE HER SHIPSHAPE AGAIN!



AND SO, THE PT BOAT CREW THAT HAD HATED PT BOATS-- ACCOMPLISHED THE IMPOSSIBLE! OLD MAGGIE WAS FIT FOR DUTY AGAIN...

AMAZING! WHERE DID YOU GET THE PARTS, MR. GANTLING?

WE... UH... REQUISITIONED THEM, SIR! MAYBE IT'LL BE BETTER NOT TO KNOW WHERE!



FIGHTIN' NAVY

ALMOST AS FAST AND JUST AS DEADLY, OLD MAGGIE WENT BACK TO REGULAR DUTY!

OUR ORDERS ARE TO JOIN TASK UNIT THIRTY THREE SIXTEEN IN A HURRY! OPEN HER UP!



FOUR JAP CRUISERS HEADED THE LINE -- AND JAP DESTROYERS FANNED OUT ON EACH SIDE! IT WAS LT. GANTLING'S JOB TO PENETRATE THAT SCREEN -- EVEN THOUGH THE BOAT WOULD SURELY BE SUNK! OLD MAGGIE WAS EXPENDABLE...

A JAP CONVOY HAD BEEN BUILDING UP FOR DAYS! THE PITIFULLY MEAGER ALLIED VESSELS NEEDED ALL THE HELP THEY COULD GET...

CHICK TWO THIS IS MOTHER HEN. START ENGINES. WE ARE MOVING OUT TO INTERCEPT ENEMY VESSELS!

CRANK 'ER UP! THIS IS IT!



LATER, AFTER OLD MAGGIE'S CREW HAD BEEN FISHED FROM THE TROPICAL WATER...

WELL, WE TORE IT THIS TIME! OLD MAGGIE'S SUNK AND WE GET BROKEN UP!

GOOD NEWS, BOYS! WE'VE GOT A NEW BOAT WAITING FOR US! OLD MAGGIE NUMBER TWO IS ALL OURS!



END

FIGHTIN' NAVY

SILENT DEATH

HARD RIGHT RUDDER,
QUICK MAN!

BUT SIR, THE RADAR
DIDN'T...

GET THAT RUDDER
OVER **FAST!**

DMS DUTY (DESTROYER, MINE
SWEEPER) WASN'T WELCOME
TO MOST NAVY MEN. IT DIDN'T
OFFER THE HEADY EXCITEMENT
OF BATTLE, ONLY THE PRESSURE
OF UNENDING DANGER, NEVER
SEEN, ALWAYS PRESENT...

SURFACED MINE ON
STARBOARD BEAM.
STAND BY THE TWENTY
MILLIMETERS.

FIGHTIN' NAVY

FIRE! GO AHEAD, ACE!

1 377

GOT A DOUBLE! THAT'S TWO CANDY BARS YOU OWE ME!

BUT DESPITE THE JOKES AND THE UNEVENTFUL ROUTINE THE PRESSURE GREW HEAVIER EVERY DAY ...

I'M GETTING TIRED OF YOUR YACKETY-YAK! SHUT UP OR I'LL SHUT YOU UP!

CRAIG AND VIRNEK FIGHTING -- AND THEY'RE PALS! THE WHOLE CREW IS JUMPY.

WE'RE GOING TO KWAJALEIN TO REFUEL! GIVE THE CREW ALL THE LIBERTY YOU CAN, MISTER!

YES, SIR! THEY CAN STAND IT, WE ALL CAN, FOR THAT MATTER!



ONE MAN, PUG BATES, SAID IT AS WELL AS ANYONE COULD: HE PICKED ON THE BIGGEST MARINE HE COULD FIND AND ...

THIS SHOULD FINISH YOU, YOU ROOSTER!

NOTHIN' FINISHES... OOF!



AT LEAST I WAS FIGHTIN' SOMETHIN' I COULD SEE AND SWING AT!



FIGHTIN' NAVY

THE CREW HOPED FOR DUTY WITH THE FLEET -- BUT CAPTAIN LARSEN KNEW THEY'D NEVER BE THAT LUCKY AS HE RECEIVED ORDERS FOR THEIR NEXT CRUISE...

THE MEN HATE THIS DUTY, SIR, AND SO DO I. IF ONLY WE COULD FIGHT BACK! BUT THE MINES, THEY'RE INANIMATE, JUST LYING THERE, WAITING!



AT SEA ONCE MORE, TRAVELING ALONE, THE CRUISERS AND THE TRANSPORTS WOULD SAIL LATER ONCE THE AREA HAD BEEN CLEARED OF MINES...

THIS IS HOW THE FOUR OF US WILL BE EQUIPPED, SIR. YOU'LL HAVE TO GET US IN CLOSE TO THE REEF!

I'LL DROP YOU RIGHT ON IT! IT'S DEEP WATER ALL THE WAY IN!



I KNOW, BOB, BUT THE JOB HAS TO BE DONE, THIS TRIP IS A LITTLE DIFFERENT! YOU'LL CARRY A TEAM OF UNDERWATER DEMOLITION EXPERTS. IF YOU GET BY THIS ONE, I'LL SEND YOU ON A HONOLULU CONVOY RUN!



WHAT DO WE GET, SIR? PATROLIN' THE GOWANUS CANAL, I HOPE!

BETTER THAN THAT, BATES! WE'RE GOING TO SPIT RIGHT IN A JAP GENERAL'S EYE THIS TIME!



THOUSANDS OF MEN AND THOUSANDS OF TONS OF SUPPLIES WILL LAND THROUGH THE GAP YOU MAKE IN THAT CORAL REEF! MAKE SURE IT'S BIG ENOUGH!



RUNNING AT HALF SPEED, ALL LIGHTS OUT, THE OLD CONVERTED DESTROYER CRESTED IN CLOSE TO SAIPAN...

SEE ANYTHING, SMITTY?

THE JAPS ARE MOVING TROOPS ON SHORE! NOTHIN' ON WATER!



FIGHTIN' NAVY

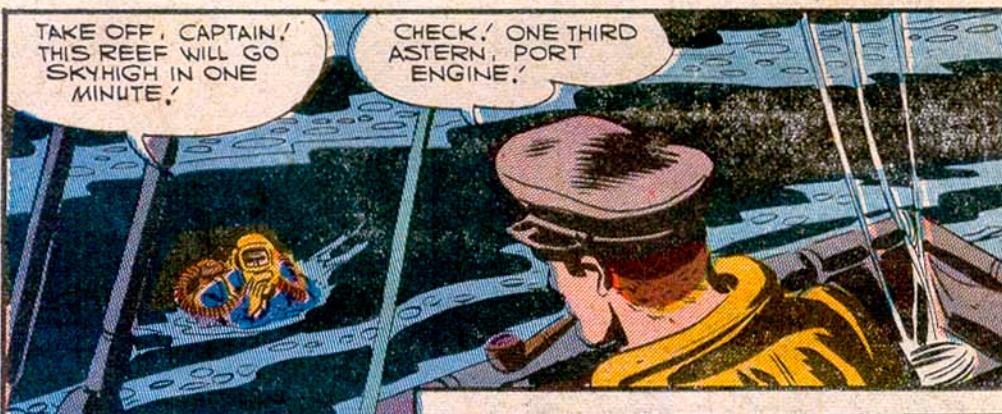
THE MINE SWEeper HAD TO PICK A PATH THROUGH THE MINE FIELDS, TO DESTROY ONE NOW WOULD MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO BLOW UP THE REEF...

WE CUT A DOZEN MINES LOOSE, SIR! THEY'LL HAVE TO BE DESTROYED!

NOT NOW, BOB! OUR JOB IS TO GET THE DIVERS TO THEIR AREA!



THEN THEY WERE FINISHED! THIS TIME THERE WAS NO NEED TO BE QUIET...



THE PORT RUDDER'S JAMMED, SIR!



YES, THE RUDDER WAS JAMMED, ONE OF THE MINES THEY'D CUT LOOSE WAS STILL WITH THEM -- THE CABLE WRAPPED AROUND THE RUDDER POST...



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WE GIVE YOU

BOYS! GIRLS! LADIES! MEN!

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MAIL COUPON

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LOOK

FLASH! SCIENTISTS HAVE
JUST LAUNCHED THE FIRST
EARTH SATELLITE. ANYONE
SPOTTING IT PLEASE
CALL US AT ONCE!



GOOD WORK, BETTY AND
JIM! YOU ARE THE
FIRST TO SPOT OUR
NEW OBSERVATION
SATELLITE!



GOSH! HERE HOW DID YOU KIDS
ARE BETTY AND EVER GET A RADIO,
JIM'S PICTURES A TELESCOPE AND
IN TODAY'S BINOCULARS?
PAPER!!



IT WAS EASY, KIDS - WE EARNED
THEM, AND LOTS MORE SWELL
PREMIUMS, SELLING WHITE
CLOVERINE BRAND
SALVE TO OUR FRIENDS
AND NEIGHBORS!



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("Puzzles" will be sent to you absolutely FREE)

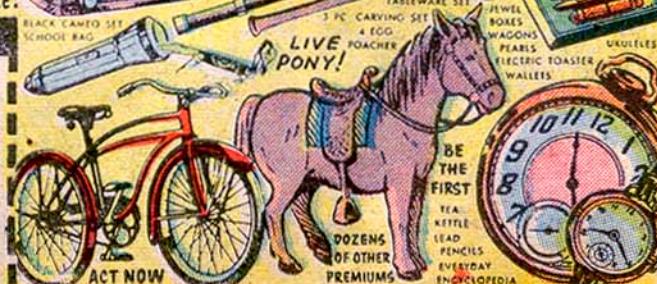
Wilson Chemical Co., Dept CC-99, Tyrone, Pa. Date

Gentlemen: Please send me on trial 14 colorful art pictures, with 14 boxes of White CLOVERLY Brand SATYE to sell at 35c a box (with picture). I will remit amount asked within 30 days, select a Premium or keep Cash. Commission as explained under Premium wanted in catalog sent with order, postage paid to start. Be sure to send my FREE "PURSES".

NAME _____ AGE _____
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PRINT LAST NAME HERE

An illustration of a woman with a yellow apron pointing towards a large, circular 'CLOVERINE' salve jar. The jar is labeled 'WHITE CLOVERINE BRAND SALVE' and 'PRICED 5¢'. Below the jar, a speech bubble says 'SOLD BY AGENTS AND DRUG STORES EVERYWHERE!'. The background features a boy with a magnifying glass looking at a book labeled 'HOLY BIBLE'.



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WILSON CHEMICAL COMPANY Dept. CC-99 Tyrone, Pa.

FIGHTIN' NAVY

I'LL TAKE A LOOK, CAPTAIN.
SO WILL I.
BREAK OUT THE UNDER-WATER ACETYLENE GEAR, BOS'N.'

THE PORTABLE ACETYLENE UNIT WAS QUICKLY STRAPPED ON! CAPTAIN LARSEN, A MEDIOCRE SWIMMER, SLIPPED BENEATH THE BLACK PACIFIC WATERS...



FULL SPEED AHEAD!
NEVER MIND TRYING
TO HIDE NOW!
THE REEF'S
GOING UP
ANY SECOND!

THE POWERFUL TURBINES WHINED, THE OLD DESTROYER LEAPED AHEAD...



FIGHTIN' NAVY

WE ARE UNDER FIRE FROM SHORE GUNS, SIR! EXECUTE EVASIVE ACTION?

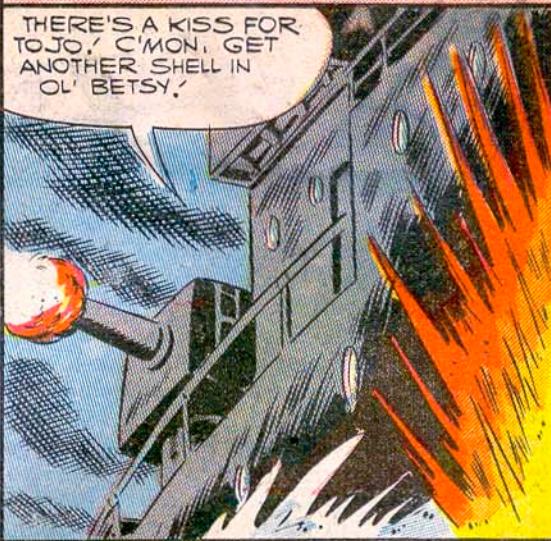
NO, MISTER! RETURN THE FIRE! WE'VE BEEN TARGETS TOO LONG!



IN THEORY, THE OVERAGE DESTROYER DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE -- BUT DMS 377 HAD NURSED A GRUDGE FOR A LONG TIME...

THE CREW OF DMS 377 MANNED THEIR GUNS HAPPILY. AT LAST THEY HAD A CHANCE TO FIGHT MEN LIKE THEMSELVES...

THERE'S A KISS FOR TOJO! C'MON, GET ANOTHER SHELL IN OL' BETSY!



WE GOT ANOTHER GUN EMPLACEMENT!

HARD RIGHT, ALL ENGINES FULL AHEAD. WE PUSHED OUR LUCK FAR ENOUGH!



AS SOON AS YOU GET ASTERN, SWEETHEART, I'LL BLOW YOU SKY HIGH!



THE DISPATCHES LATER LAUDED THE ARMY, THE MARINES, THE BIG SHIPS THAT BOMB-ARDED THE BEACH. BUT THE MINE SWEEPER AND THE DEMOLITION TEAM THAT CLEARED THE WAY WEREN'T FORGOTTEN...

LIVE IT UP, BOYS! WE'LL BE CLEARIN' THE MINES OUT OF TOKYO BAY PRETTY SOON!



END

PITY THE POOR PIRATE



Daydreaming is a universal pastime and pleasure that costs nothing. Just sit in an easy chair and close your eyes for a few minutes. You thus transport yourself to deepest Africa. For absolutely not one cent you can organize a safari, fight with savages, find a hidden gold mine, and win the hand of the fair maiden. Or you can go to the North Pole and feel very comfortable. On the other hand you can go back into the centuries. Want to be with Columbus as he sets sail? Or go with Marco Polo?

There is one big trouble with daydreaming. You may have the wrong information about what you want to be! Surely, at one time or another, you thought of being a pirate. Sail the seven seas with your ship and crew. You sight six ships. Who cares if the odds are against you. One by one you attack them and finally win. Gold, silver, and diamonds are yours. Seems there was also a princess most attractive on one of the ships. You marry her, win a pardon, and go someplace.

Sounds simple when you daydream. But actually, if you study the history of Piracy, you find it was terrible, stupid, criminal, and with an ending on the gallows. When the men mutinied and captured a ship, the law for mutiny on the high seas spelled Death. And for attacking other ships, thus being pirates, the law was also Death. And since they killed people, the law also was Death. But in the fighting, pirates were killed. They themselves suffered, and no matter how long they were successful — there was to be a final day of reckoning when a superior force smashed them.

You will probably not find the story of Captain Bartholomew Roberts in a book about Pirates. What I tell you was obtained from the record of the trial involving the men who sailed aboard his pirate ship. He was the second mate of a slave trader. This boat was attacked by a pirate ship, the ROVER, under the command of Captain Davis. Roberts decided he too wanted to be a pirate and soon became one of the active men under Captain Davis. In a fight with the Portuguese, Captain Davis was killed. Who was to be the head of the ROVER? The pirates actually held an election, and in the year 1720, Captain Bartholomew Roberts became their leader.

His first exploit was to attack and burn a

Portuguese fort. Then he attacked the town with his ship's guns. Putting to sea, they captured several vessels, Dutch and English. Some they plundered. Others they gave the crew a chance to turn pirates.

Next Captain Roberts sighted 42 Portuguese ships off the Bay of Los Todos Santos. He sailed up to one of the ships and quickly got her to surrender. His men, with their cutlasses ready for action, scarred the crew. The Portuguese master came aboard the pirate ship and found himself asked one question: "Which is the richest ship in the fleet?" He pointed to a ship with forty guns and 150 men.

Captain Roberts then set sail for this ship. He came near to her. He told the Portuguese master to ask the captain of this ship to come aboard, but they were suspicious. Captain Roberts realized they were getting ready to fight him. So he went into action and captured the ship. The others were scared of him. The records say "they found the ship exceedingly rich; being laden chiefly with sugars, skins, and tobacco, and 4000 moidores in gold; besides chains and trinkets of considerable value; particularly a cross set with diamonds, designed for the king of Portugal."

The pirates then went to a place called Devil's Island, in the river of Surinam, on the coast of Guyana. They rested and then seized a sloop in the river. They learned that another boat had sailed with this sloop from Rhode Island and had a lot of provisions on her. The pirates needed food. Captain Roberts decided to capture this boat. He and forty men went aboard the sloop and started to go after the ship.

But how dumb were these pirates? They forgot to check on the provisions aboard the sloop! For eight days they were away and half starved. They almost died of thirst because the water barrels were empty. Finally they returned without catching the ship. Then Captain Roberts heard some bad news. He had left his big ship in command of his friend, Kennedy who was a "lieutenant." Kennedy ran away with the pirate ship and all the treasure! You can call this the big double cross. How could pirates think they could trust each other?

Captain Roberts needed a big boat. He saw a Bristol galley, with twenty guns and 80 men

aboard her. He made up his mind to capture her. But her commander, Captain Rogers, put up a fight. The small pirate ship was getting closer. Captain Rogers lightened his boat by throwing overboard his big guns. Thus he was able to outsail the pirate ship and escape. As we might say it: The villain was foiled!

Captain Roberts and the rest of his pirates then set sail for Newfoundland. They arrived there towards the end of June, 1720. They entered the harbor with their black colors flying, drums beating, and trumpets sounding. There were twenty-two ships in the harbor, but when the sailors saw the pirates, they all fled ashore. The pirate leader burned and sank all ships except a Bristol galley. Upon this boat he mounted sixteen guns and then started out on a cruise. He destroyed nine French boats. He captured a larger boat with twenty-six guns and decided to use it himself. He christened it the FORTUNE.

Again he ran short of food and went to the island of St. Bartholomew where he and his men rested and reprovisioned the boat. Then out to sea again and another fight with a Dutch boat of twenty-two guns and seventy-five men. This boat put up a stiff fight and Captain Roberts lost some of his pirates. While the pirates were on land, a few tried another double cross. Net result was a few less pirates.

Trying to run the pirates was a tough job for Captain Roberts. The records state that, "it was with great difficulty that the pirate crew could be kept together under any kind of regulation. For being almost always mad or drunk, their behaviour produced infinite disorders. Every man being in his own imagination, a prince or a king." Which shows you that even pirates did some daydreaming: Each wanted to be the big boss!

With a smaller boat and his larger boat, Captain Roberts headed for the coast of Africa, but the mate of the smaller ship decided to become a pirate chief on his own account and vanished with the boat and men. Captain Roberts kept on sailing until he came near the Senegal River. He saw two small French ships and hoisted the pirate flag. The two boats surrendered. However, Captain Roberts decided he needed a better ship.

The ONSLOW, owned by the Royal African Company, and under the command of Captain

Gee, was at Sestos. Most of the men were on shore. A quick raid was made and most of the sailors on the ONSLOW decided to become pirates themselves.

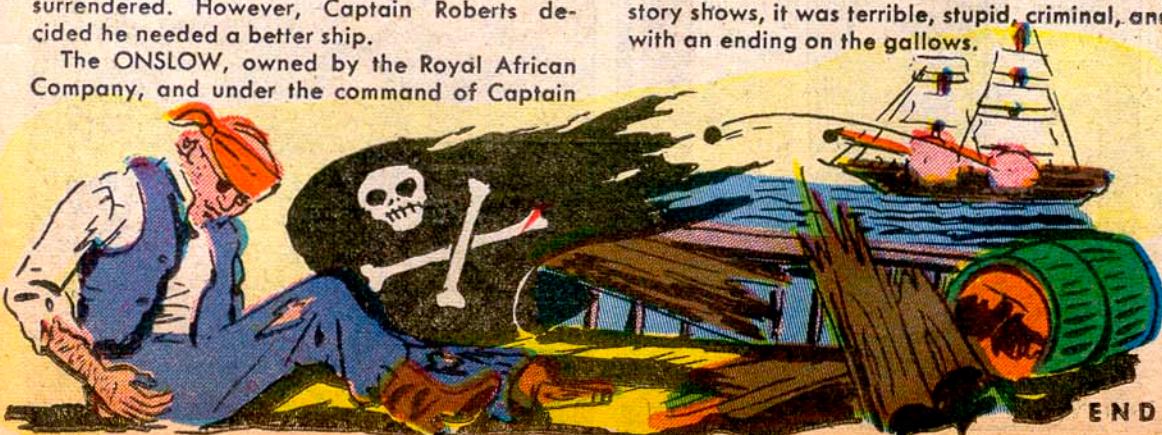
Meanwhile there were two men-of-war, the SWALLOW and the WEYMOUTH looking for the pirates. Sooner or later they would meet and then the fate of the pirates would finally be decided. And it happened in a rather melodramatic way.

The pirates sighted a ship. Couldn't tell what ship but they decided to fight and capture it. It was the man-of-war, SWALLOW. The captain of the SWALLOW decided to do something really clever. He lured the pirate ship out to sea all herself without the aid of some smaller boats. Captain Roberts thought the boat he was chasing was a Portuguese ship filled with sugar. This was a valuable commodity which he could easily sell. The SWALLOW slowed down. Up went the pirate flag. Captain Roberts swung his boat closer. The idea was to board the other ship. Then the king's men went into action. A well trained gun crew fired at the pirate boat. The battle was on and lasted for two hours. Ten pirates were killed, twenty wounded. Not a man aboard the man-of-war was touched! Captain Roberts himself was killed in this engagement, and finally the pirates surrendered. These men were taken aboard the man-of-war and shackled. Then the SWALLOW went after the smaller pirate boat and the end had finally arrived for those who had thought Piracy was easy.

The men were taken to Cape Corso and tried. The record states: "Trial of the Pirates. Taken by his Majesty's Ship, the SWALLOW, begun at Cape Corso-Castle, on the Coast of Africa, March the 28th, 1722."

Each man received a fair trial. The guilty ones paid with their lives for their crimes. In several cases, men had been forced to serve aboard the pirates ships. Testimony was taken to show that these men were not pirates; they had tried to escape and had done their best to help the unfortunates. They were acquitted.

So if you must do some more daydreaming, please forget about being a Pirate! As this true story shows, it was terrible, stupid, criminal, and with an ending on the gallows.



END

FIGHTIN' NAVY

SURPRISED RAID!

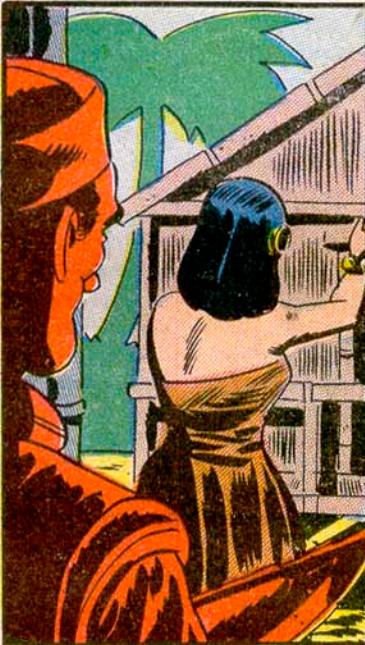
THE ORDERS
WERE
DEFINITE...
INVESTIGATE
AND REPORT
ON THE
TINY ATOLL!
WERE THEY
FRIENDS
OR
ENEMIES?



S1786

THE SUN WAS COMING UP
FAST! LT. COMDR. WELDEN
LED HIS MEN CAUTIOUSLY
THROUGH THE PALM GROVES.

I HEARD A NOISE!
THIS ISLAND MIGHT BE
CRAWLING WITH
NIPS!



NOW! KICK
IT IN!



YOUR HIGHNESS,
WE REPRESENT
THE UNITED STA...



END

FIGHTIN' NAVY

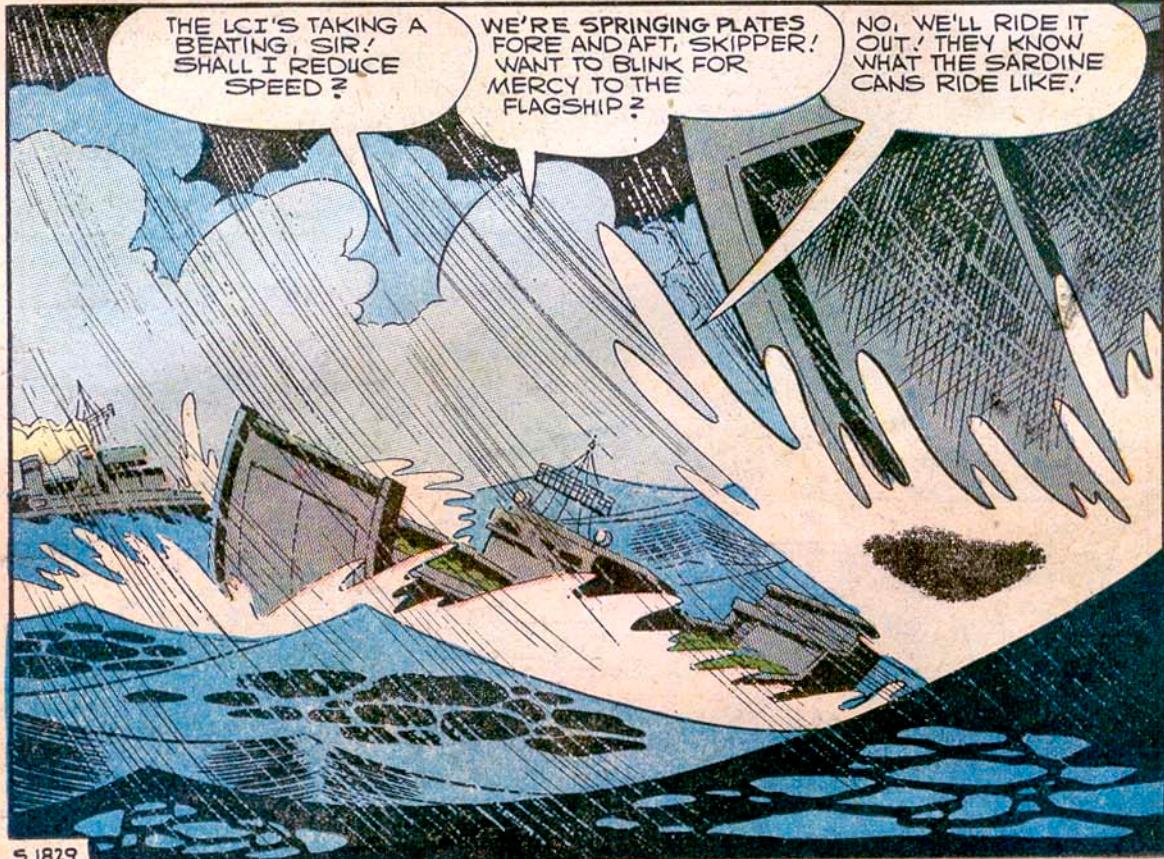
LANDING CRAFT INFANTRY

OFFICIALLY, THE LCI WAS BUILT TO BE OCEAN GOING, WAS CONSIDERED SEAWORTHY IN ANY WEATHER! ON THE PLANNER'S TABLE, THAT MAY HAVE BEEN TRUE -- BUT IN A GALE, THE TINY LANDING CRAFT DID HER BEST TO MAKE LIKE A SUBMARINE!

THE LCI'S TAKING A BEATING, SIR! SHALL I REDUCE SPEED?

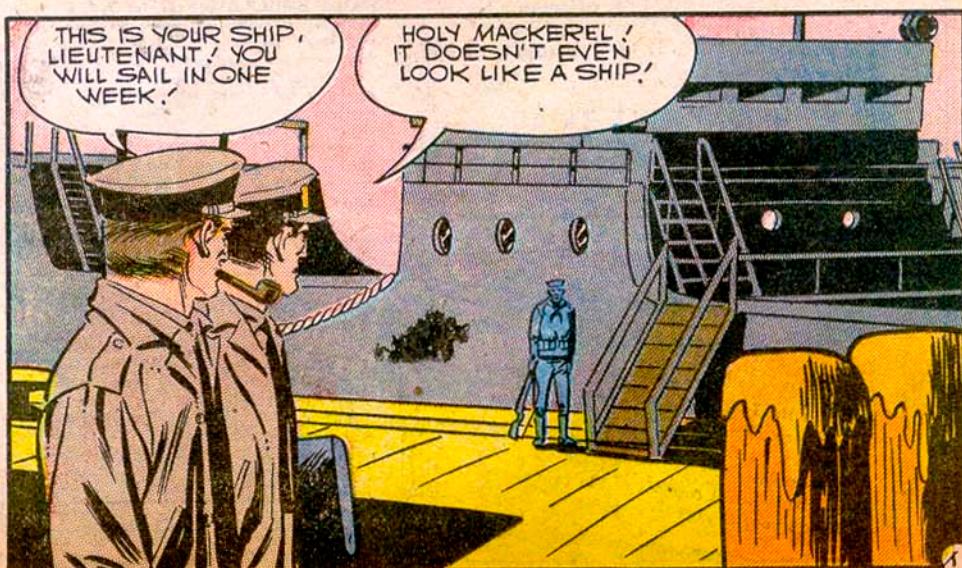
WE'RE SPRINGING PLATES FORE AND AFT, SKIPPER! WANT TO BLINK FOR MERCY TO THE FLAGSHIP?

NO, WE'LL RIDE IT OUT! THEY KNOW WHAT THE SARDINE CANS RIDE LIKE!



S 1829

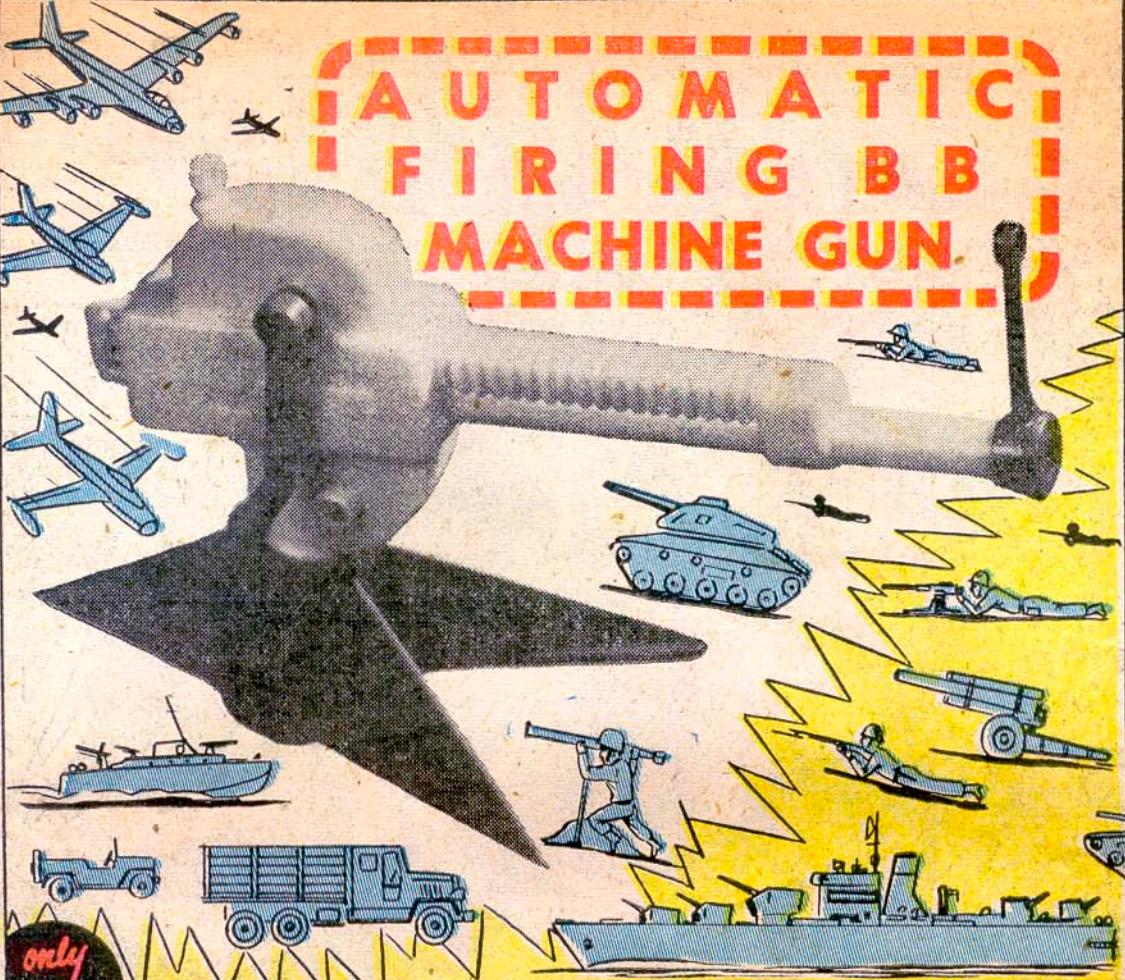
LIEUTENANT DOBREK ALMOST RESIGNED HIS COMMISSION WHEN HE SAW HIS FIRST COMMAND AT THE SHIP-YARD...



THIS IS YOUR SHIP, LIEUTENANT! YOU WILL SAIL IN ONE WEEK!

HOLY MACKEREL! IT DOESN'T EVEN LOOK LIKE A SHIP!

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NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

FIGHTIN' NAVY

LT. DOBREK HAD A GREEN CREW TOO--
BUT A WEEK LATER, THE LCI WAS UNDER
WAY, BADLY NEEDED IN PACIFIC WATERS...

THE LCI, AFTER A DOZEN NEAR DISASTERS
ENROUTE, FINALLY MADE IT TO PEARL HARBOR.

HOW'S THE CREW SHAPE
UP, CHIEF? THEY
STILL GRIPING?
THEY'LL BE
OKAY, SIR.
I WASN'T TOO
HAPPY MYSELF
WHEN I SAW
HER EITHER!

GLAD YOU MADE IT,
DOBREK! YOU'RE
READY FOR
ASSIGNMENT,
AREN'T YOU?

I'VE GOT A LIST OF
REPAIRS AS LONG
AS MY ARM! I
NEED AT LEAST A
MONTH IN THE
YARD, SIR!



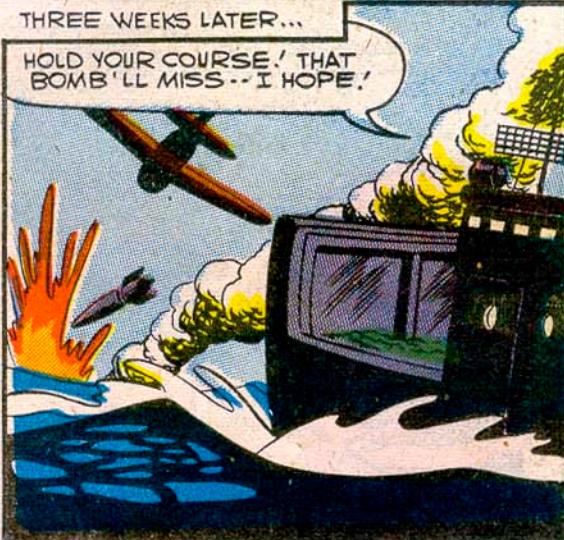
SO THREE DAYS LATER...

THEY GIVE ME A DO-IT-YOUR-
SELF KIT AND SENT ME OUT
AGAIN! OH, WELL, MAYBE
AFTER THIS INVASION...

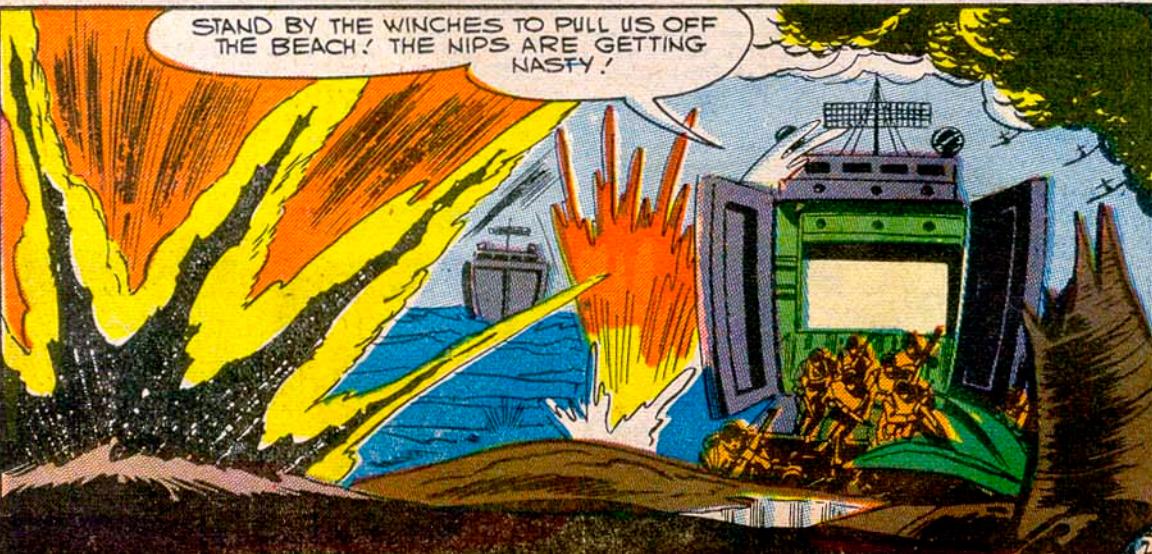


THREE WEEKS LATER...

HOLD YOUR COURSE! THAT
BOMB'LL MISS--I HOPE!



STAND BY THE WINCHES TO PULL US OFF
THE BEACH! THE NIPS ARE GETTING
NASTY!

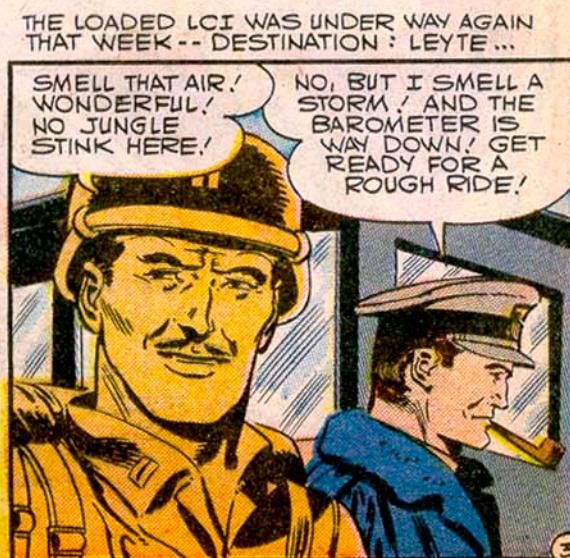


FIGHTIN' NAVY

THE LCI SURVIVED THAT INVASION AND WENT ON TO HALF A DOZEN MORE... THE CREW FINALLY GOT A REST IN ORO BAY IN NEW GUINEA...

YOU'RE LIEUTENANT DOBREK, AREN'T YOU? I'M CAPTAIN WHITE! MY COMPANY WILL SAIL WITH YOU FOR LEYTE!

WELL, WELL, I HOPE YOU ENJOY THE TRIP! IT'S NOT A LUXURY LINER!



FIGHTIN' NAVY

THE STORM
CAME...
A HOWLING,
SHRIEKING GALE
THAT
MEANT NO
MORE THAN
A LITTLE
DISCOMFORT
ABOARD
THE
BIGGER
SHIPS! BUT
ON THE
LCI...



OF COURSE, WE WON'T
EAT VERY WELL WHILE
THE WIND HOLDS!

DON'T MENTION
FOOD! I... ULP... C-CAN'T
EAT ANYHOW!



TWO DAYS LATER, WITH CALMER SEAS...



CLEAR THE DECKS! SOUND
GENERAL QUARTERS!

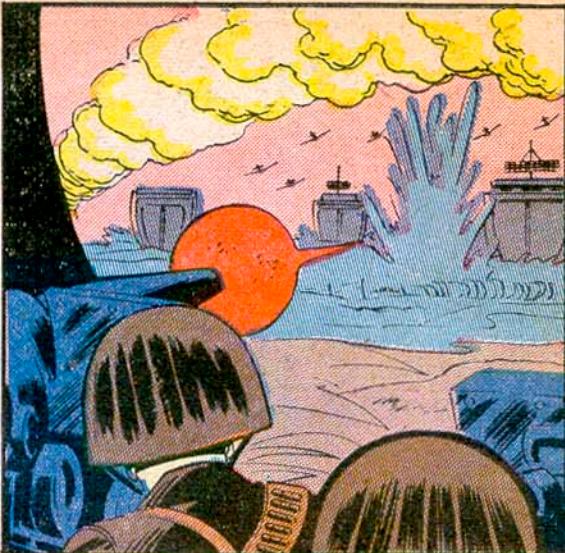
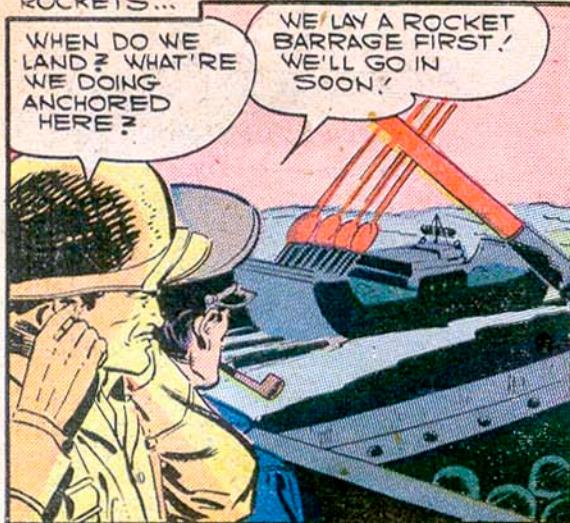


THE JAP KAMIKAZE MISSED THE LCI AND
CRASHED HARMLESSLY INTO THE SEA!
BUT JAPANESE SUBMARINES TRIED TO
STOP THE INVASION FLEET TOO...



FIGHTIN' NAVY

THE LCI GROUP ARRIVED ON SCHEDULE--
SAILING IN PAST THE BATTLE WAGONS TO
TAKE STATIONS OFF SHORE, FIRING
ROCKETS...



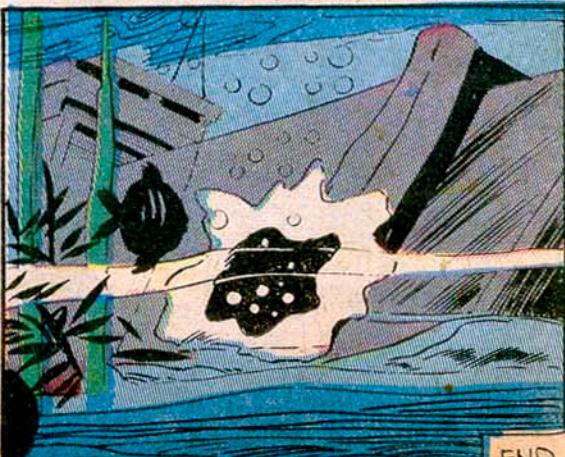
HERE'S WHERE YOU GET OFF, CAPTAIN! I GUESS YOU'RE SORRY TO LEAVE A LUXURY LINER LIKE THIS!



THE LANDING CRAFT SURVIVED THAT LANDING-- BUT THE LAW OF AVERAGES CAUGHT UP WITH HER OFF MINDORO...



SHE'D SERVED HER PURPOSE... AND THOUSANDS OF MEN WHO SAILED ON HER CRANKY SPLINTERS WILL NEVER FORGET HER IN HER WATERY GRAVE!



END

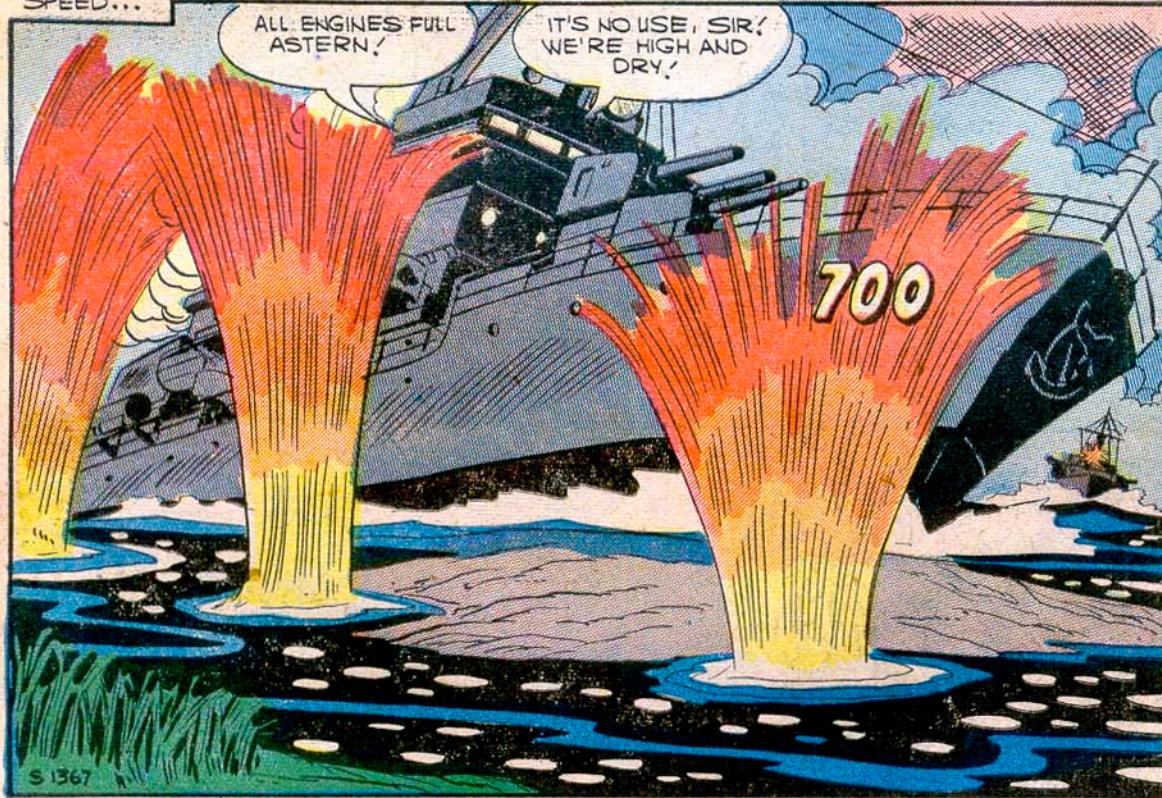
FIGHTIN' NAVY

SWIM WITH ALL HANDS

WHEN THE RED GUNBOAT SPED FROM A COVE AND HEADED FOR HER HOME PORT, A U.S. DESTROYER SPOTTED HER AND CLOSED IN FAST! THE CHARTS SHOWED DEEP WATER... BUT THE DESTROYER'S BOW CRUMPLED AS SHE KNIFED INTO THE SAND BANK AT FLANK SPEED...

ALL ENGINES FULL ASTERN.

IT'S NO USE, SIR!
WE'RE HIGH AND DRY!



S 1367
THE NEWS WAS FLASHED IMMEDIATELY TO THE SQUADRON COMMANDER ON ANOTHER DESTROYER OFFSHORE...

MESSAGE FROM THE HUNTER, CAPTAIN! SHE'S AGROUND CLOSE INSHORE AND GROUND TROOPS ARE GOING TO WADE OUT AND ATTACK!

ORDER THE CAPTAIN TO DESTROY ALL CLASSIFIED MATERIAL AND BLOW UP THE VESSEL! TAKE US IN AS CLOSE TO THE HUNTER AS YOU CAN!

MEANWHILE, ABOARD THE HUNTER...

SHALL I THROW THE CODES OVERBOARD ACCORDING TO REGULATIONS, SIR?

NOT HERE, MISTER! THE WATER IS TOO SHALLOW! I'LL TAKE THEM WITH ME WHEN I LEAVE! GET THE CREW OFF IN THE BOATS!



FIGHTIN' NAVY

YOU WERE THE LAST ONE ABOARD, SIR! SHALL I SHOVE OFF?

YES, COX'N! THE CAPTAIN'S BOAT WAS OVER ON THE PORT SIDE! HE MUST'VE LEFT ON THAT!



FIVE MINUTES LATER, ABOARD THE SQUADRON COMMANDER'S VESSEL ...

ALL BOATS REPORTED IN, SIR! THE CAPTAIN MUST STILL BE ABOARD THE SHIP! THE REDS ARE STILL NEAR THE SHIP NOW!



TELL THEM TO COME ABOARD! COMMANDER, PICK A DETAIL AND ARM THEM TO GET THE CAPTAIN OFF THE HUNTLEY!

PICK THIRTY MEN, GUNS, AND GET THREE LIFE RAFTS READY!

YES, SIR! ON THE DOUBLE, SIR!



FIVE MINUTES LATER...

DESTROY THE VESSEL, COMMANDER! DON'T LET THAT RABBLE GET THEIR HANDS ON OUR EQUIPMENT!



THEY HAVEN'T GOTTEN ABOARD YET, GUNS!

THEY WON'T EITHER, SIR--NOT UNLESS WE WANT 'EM TO! THE BOYS I PICKED ARE MOSTLY RECRUITS BUT WE ALL HAD TO START SOMETIME!



FIGHTIN' NAVY

POUR IT INTO THEM, MEN!
AHY, ON DECK! DO
YOU HAVE CHARGES
SET TO DESTROY
THE SHIP?

NO! GET A DETAIL UP HERE FAST!
WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME,
COMMANDER!



REMEMBER, GUNS, I DON'T WANT
ENOUGH OF THIS SHIP LEFT TO
MAKE AN ASH TRAY OUT OF!

WHEN I GET
FINISHED, THIS
SHIP WON'T SINK,
IT'LL EVAPORATE!



THE DEMOLITION CHARGES ALONE COULD
DO THE TRICK! BETWEEN THEM, THE
AMMO, AND THE FUEL OIL, THERE
WON'T BE MUCH LEFT OF THE HUNTERY!



HEAD FOR A BOAT, CAPTAIN!
WE HAVE FIVE MINUTES!
AND I JUST HAD AN
IDEA!



I'LL LISTEN UP ON
DECK! THIS SHIP IS
JUST ONE BIG
BOMB NOW!



FIGHTIN' NAVY

ALL RIGHT, GUNS! LET'S
WHAT'S FAKE A
YOUR IDEA?

FIGHT, THEN
RETREAT! LET
THE REDS COME
ABOARD! WE'LL
NOT ONLY BLOW
UP THE SHIP, BUT
A LOT OF
COMMIES,
TOO!

THE REDS WERE SWARMING
OUT TOWARD THE
DESTROYER NOW --
HUNDREDS OF THEM...

THEY FOUND THE LINES
WE THREW OVER
FOR THEM! THEY
TOOK THE BAIT!

ENJOY IT WHILE YOU CAN,
CHUMPS! ME, I'M
GETTIN' WHILE THE
GETTIN'S GOOD!



IF YOU STAYED A MINUTE
LONGER, SIR, I'D HAVE
TRANSFER PAPERS
MADE OUT!

I WOULDN'T LAST LONG ON HER,
SIR -- NEITHER WILL
THE REDS!



THANK HEAVENS WE'RE IN
DEEP WATER! I CAN
DEEP SIX THIS TOP
SECRET STUFF NOW
IF I HAVE TO!

NO NEED TO
NOW, SIR!
YOU'RE AS
SAFE HERE
AS A RE-
CRUITING
OFFICER!

LOOK AT 'EM! LIKE ANTS ON THE
CAKE AT A PICNIC! I FEEL
SORRY FOR THEM IN A
HAPPY SORT OF WAY!

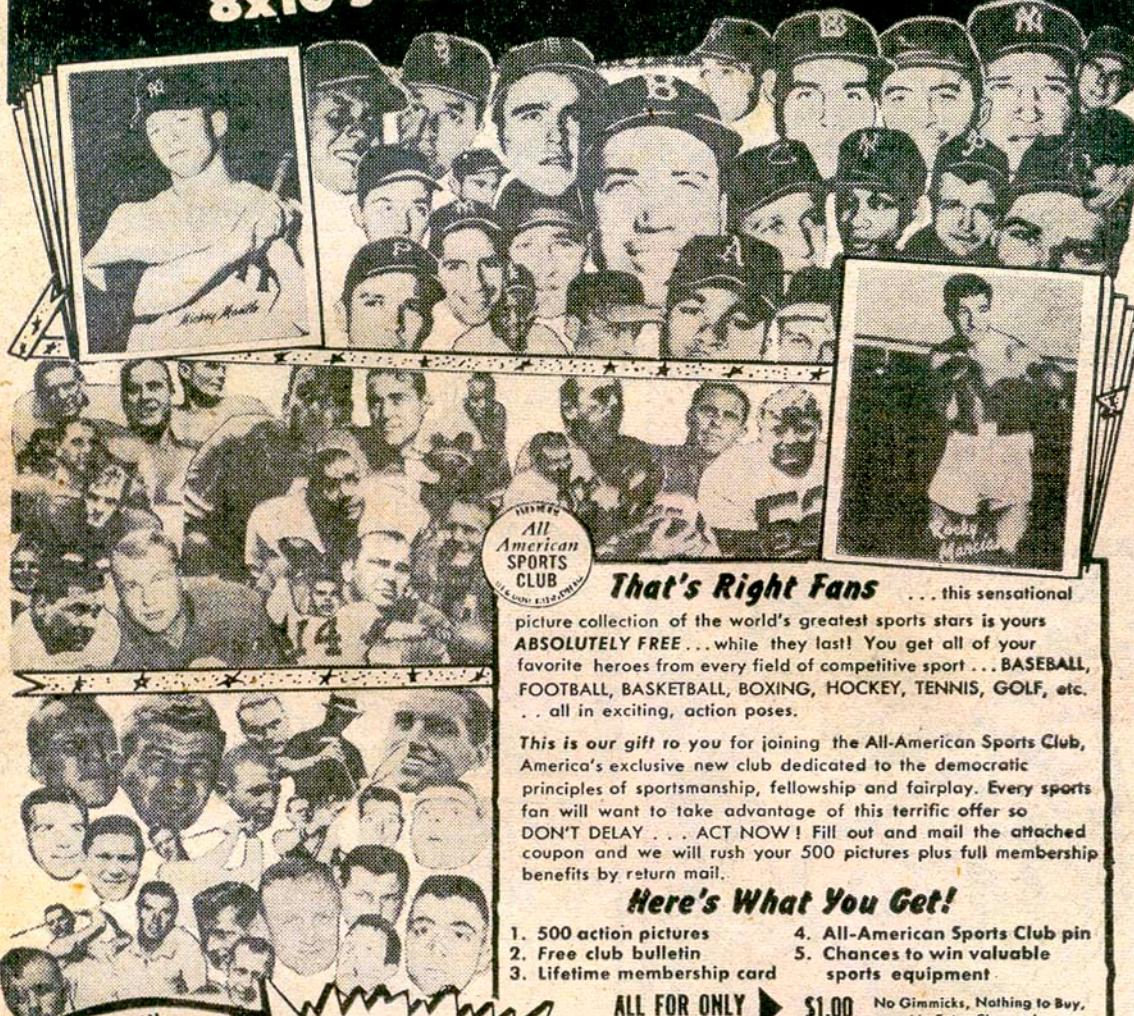


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FIGHTIN' NAVY

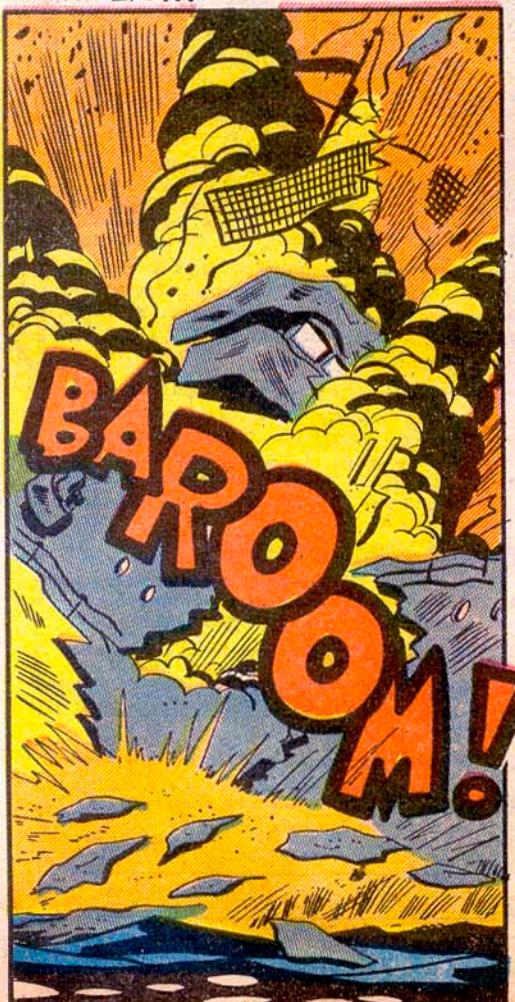
MEANWHILE, ABOARD THE FLAGSHIP, THE SQUADRON COMMANDER WATCHED...



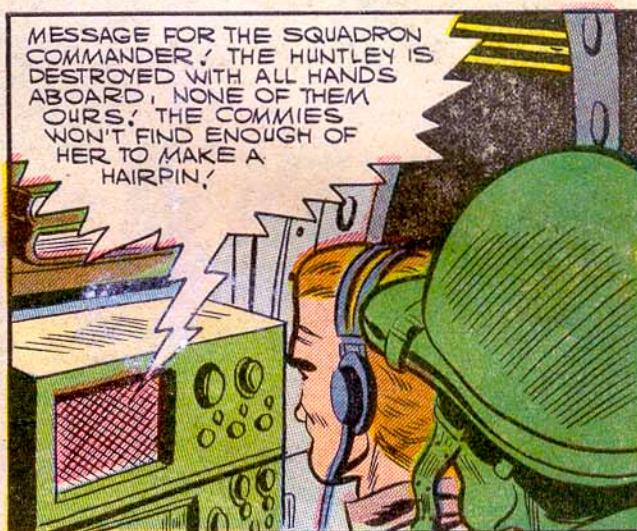
WAIT A MINUTE, CAPTAIN. COMMANDER BLAKE STARTED TO SAY SOMETHING THEN...



... THEN THE OCEAN SEEMED TO EXPLODE! THE HUNTERY WAS DEAD -- BUT HUNDREDS OF REDS DIED WITH HER ...



MESSAGE FOR THE SQUADRON COMMANDER! THE HUNTERY IS DESTROYED WITH ALL HANDS ABOARD, NONE OF THEM OURS. THE COMMIES WON'T FIND ENOUGH OF HER TO MAKE A HAIRPIN!



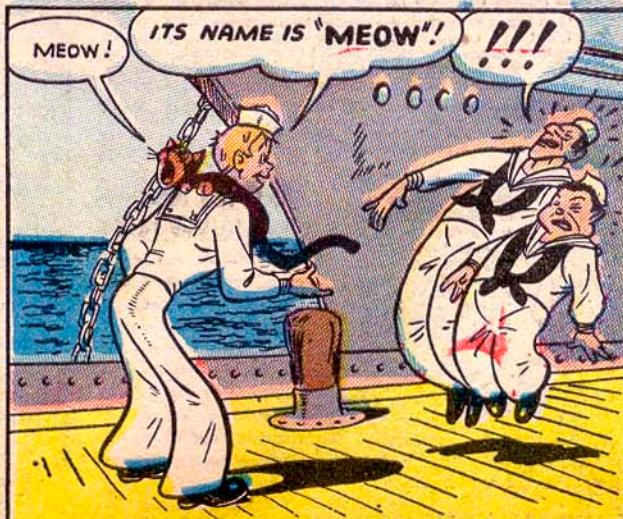
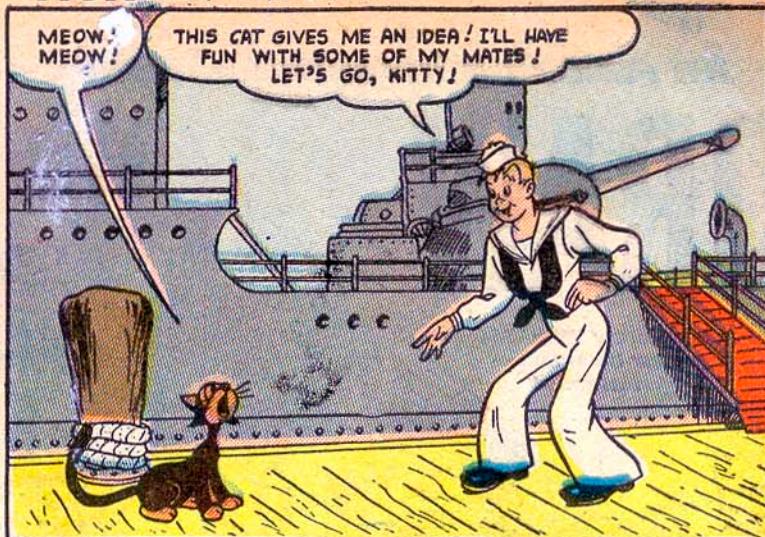
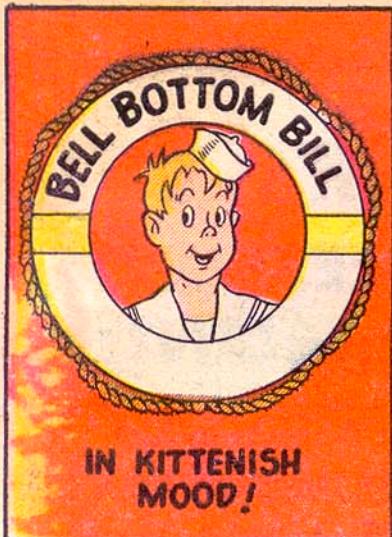
HEAR THAT, SIR! THEY DID IT! OUR CODES ARE SAFE!

SHIP DESTROYED WITH ALL HANDS, IT'S THE FIRST TIME I HEARD THAT ABOUT ONE OF OURS AND WAS HAPPY TO HEAR IT!



END

FIGHTIN' NAVY



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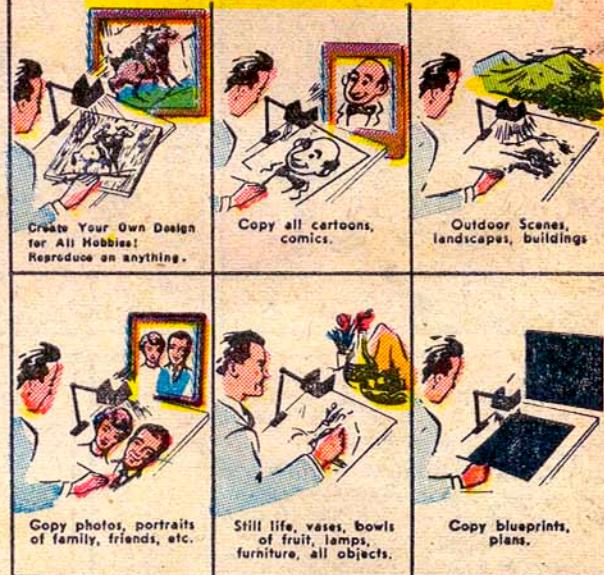
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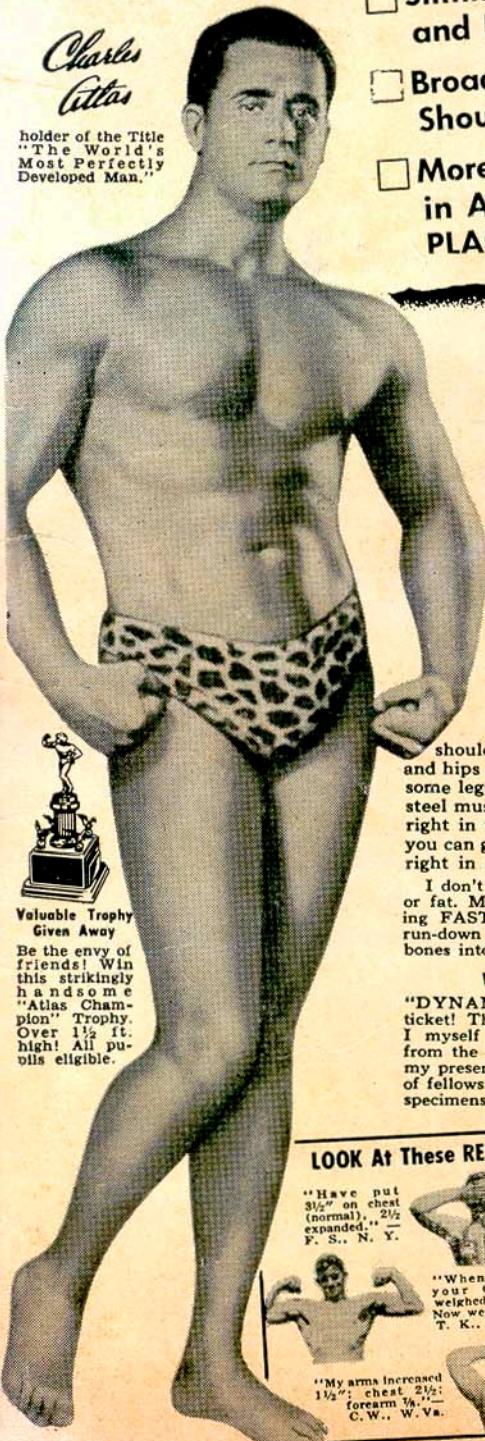
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